

Image



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of

Docket No: Q67531

Mitsuhiro KUREISHI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/996,579

Group Art Unit: 1753

Confirmation No.: 3787

Examiner: Steven H. VerSteeg

Filed: November 30, 2001

For: PHOTO MASK BLANK AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 12, 2003 and within the shortened statutory period for reply of thirty (30) days specified by the Examiner, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.